

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to focus on particles which, surprisingly, can be made in sizes 100 nm or less and still retain the ability to couple to three fluorophores as well as a reagent. Support for such particles is found, for example, on page 8, lines 3-5 and page 12, lines 13-20. Support for claims 50-51 is found in claim 1 of the allowed application; the dependent claims track the dependent claims allowed in the parent. No new matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 388512010101.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Kate H. Murashige
Kate H. Murashige
Registration No. 29,959

Morrison & Foerster LLP
3811 Valley Centre Drive,
Suite 500
San Diego, California 92130-2332
Telephone: (858) 720-5112
Facsimile: (858) 720-5125